

**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
MASSACHUSETTS**

In the City Council, May 15, 2014

Upon the Recommendation of Councilor Ryan R. O'Donnell and Council President William H. Dwight.

**Resolution Opposing the Northeast Expansion of the
Tennessee Gas Pipeline in Massachusetts**

WHEREAS, the so-called Northeast Expansion of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline is a high-pressure natural gas pipeline (hereafter "the Pipeline") proposed by Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan, Inc. that would run through many communities in Western Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, the City of Northampton has a regional interest in protecting the environment in the Pioneer Valley and in the United States, and the public health generally; and

WHEREAS, the Pipeline would transport natural gas obtained through hydraulic fracturing, a drilling method well known for its potential for ground water contamination, impact on air quality, and the harmful health effects of its chemical byproducts, among others; and

WHEREAS, pipelines of this kind carry inherent risks such as leaks and ruptures, and, as conveyors of flammable gas, can cause accidents such as the 2010 explosion in a residential neighborhood in San Bruno, California that resulted in the death of eight people and the destruction of 38 homes; and

WHEREAS, the Pipeline may pass through environmentally sensitive areas in our region such as forests and wetlands, as well as beneath the Connecticut River; and

WHEREAS, taxpayer money would pay for evacuations and emergency response in the event of explosions, fires or other accidents; and

WHEREAS, our energy challenges are better addressed through investments in green and renewable energy solutions.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council of Northampton, Massachusetts

1. Stands in opposition to the Northeast Expansion of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline and all similar projects that may be later proposed.

2. Stands in solidarity with nearby communities working to disallow the Pipeline within their borders.

3. Affirms the need for public policy at the local, state and federal levels to encourage renewable energy and combat climate change, and supports legislation to ban or impose a long-term moratorium on hydraulic fracturing as well as storage, treatment or disposal of hydraulic fracturing fluid or byproducts within the Commonwealth.

4. Shall cause a copy of this resolution to be presented to the City of Northampton's legislative representatives and the Governor, asking them to take action to prevent the construction of the Pipeline within the borders of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Passed First Reading, on a Roll Call Vote of 8 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Councilor Murphy)
Attest: Pamela L. Powers, Clerk of Council In City Council, May 15, 2014

Passed Second Reading, on a Roll Call Vote of 8 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Councilor Murphy)
Attest: Pamela L. Powers, Clerk of Council In City Council, June 5, 2014

Approved: David J. Narkewicz, Mayor

Rules suspended, passed two readings and enrolled

I hereby certify that the above Resolution passed the Northampton City Council on June 5, 2014
David J. Narkewicz, Mayor approved the Resolution on June 6, 2014

Attest: Pamela L. Powers, Clerk of Council